R. Michael Turnnspeed, Director

ALLEN BIAGGI. Administrator

(775) 687-4670 TDD 687-4678

Administration Water Pollution Control Facsimile 687-5856 Mining Regulations & Reclamation Facsimile 684-5259



Waste Management Corrective Actions Federal Facilities

Air Quality Water Quality Planning

Facsimile 687-6396

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138 Carson City, Nevada 89706

Notice of Intent

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a major modification to the existing Reclamation Permit for the Tonopah Copper Mine that will incorporate a change to the post mine land use, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for the major modification of Permit #0044 is:

Equatorial Tonopah Inc. P.O. Box 1569 Tonopah, Nevada 89049

This project, will be located within Nye County, and is in portion(s) of: Sections 4,5,6,7,8,9,15 and 16 of Township 5N, Range 42E; Sections 1,2,11,12,13 and 14 of Township 5N, Range 41E; Sections 28,29,30,31,32 and 33 of Township 6N, Range 42E; Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36, Township 6N, Range 41E; Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian, Nye County, approximately 36 miles north of Tonopah, Nevada.

The property, permitted since 1994, is in closure status and is proceeding with approved reclamation activities. This proposal is a major modification to change the post mine land use on private land from wildlife/grazing to solar and wind generation of electricity. Some buildings, roads and other utility infrastructure will remain on private property to support this post mining land use.

The Administrator is constrained to modify the reclamation permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to modify the reclamation permit.

Note: This notice is for electronic distribution. The original notice is on file at the address shown on the letterhead.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed permit change, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation in the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 519A, must submit their comments, objections, or requests in writing no later than by 5 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (June 28th, 2003)

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation Capitol Complex 333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138 Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 519A.200. The Division will accept written comments in the form of facsimile, e-mail, or by mail. The comments may also be hand delivered.

The permit modification and all applicable documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS Chapter 239.010. For more information contact <u>Todd Process</u> at (775) 687-9408, or toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900 extension 4670, or visit the Bureau's website at http://ndep.state.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm.